

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/010749

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-7 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1-6 _____ received by this Authority on 04.07.2005 with letter of 04.07.2005
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the drawings:
- sheets _____ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1.	Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-6</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-6</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-6</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
2.	Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)		
	Reference is made to the following documents:		
	D1: US-B1-6 586 361 (LINDEN GERD ET AL) 1 July 2003 (2003-07-01)		
	D2: US-A-5 792 719 (EBERLE HANS-JUERGEN ET AL) 11 August 1998 (1998-08-11)		
	D3: EP-A-1 181 097 (CONSORTI UM ELEKTROCHEM IND) 27 February 2002 (2002-02-27)		
	The present application meets the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) for the following reasons:		
	D1 (claims 1, 11 and 12; example 1), D2 (column 3, lines 21-38; claims 1, 5 and 10) and D3 (claims 1 and 10; examples 12-19; table 1; paragraph [0007]) disclose methods for producing catalysts for the production of phthalic acid anhydride from o-xylene or naphthalene by means of gas phase oxidation.		
	D1 discloses a production method involving the application of a vanadium-containing solution . D2 and D3 disclose production methods involving the		

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
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application of **TiO₂- and V₂O₅-containing suspensions** to a support. The subject matter of claim 1 (and therefore of dependent claims 2-6) is novel over the closest prior art in D2 and D3, since **D2 and D3 do not indicate the particle size of the V₂O₅**. The examples in the present application show that the claimed production method is more efficient than that of D2 or D3 (lower V₂O₅ losses).

The subject matter of claims 1-6 is thus novel and involves an inventive step in relation to D1-D3.